

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03505 030333Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00  
L-03 /061 W

-----066101 030337Z /20

P R 021130Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1009

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRABUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

-.:9, 7) ?9.?-6 04894856 759

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MADRAS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ZURICH PRIORITY

CINCPAC HAWAII

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PAGE 02 COLOMB 03505 030333Z

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3505

ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CE

SUBJECT: AIR CEYLON SUSPENDS SERVICE

1. QUOTED BELOW IS AN ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE AUGUST 2 EDITION  
OF THE CEYLON OBSERVER WHICH ANNOUNCED THE SUSPENSION OF ALL  
AIR CEYLON FLIGHTS: QUOTE

AIR CEYLON HAS SUSPENDED ALL FLIGHTS EFFECTIVE FROM  
LAST NIGHT, MR. G.S. PIERIS, THE AIRLINE'S CHAIRMAN  
CONFIRMED TODAY. HE SAID THAT THE SUSPENSION OF FLIGHTS,  
BOTH DOMESTIC AND REGIONAL, HAD BEEN DONE SO THAT THE  
AIRCRAFT MAY BE CERTIFIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL  
AVIATION. THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION,  
MR. D.H.S. ATHULATHMUDALI, SAID THAT THE CERTIFICATION  
NECESSARY WAS THAT OF AIR-WORTHINESS OF THE AIRCRAFT.  
AIR CEYLON PRESENTLY HAS TWO AIRCRAFT THE AVRO AND THE  
TRIDENT, WHICH DO 11 DOMESTIC FLIGHTS WEEKLY AND 12  
REGIONAL FLIGHTS TO BOMBAY, MARAAS AND TRICHINOPOLY END QUOTE.

2. THE SUSPENSION OF SERVICE FOLLOWED BY 3 DAYS AN INCIDENT  
WHEREIN THE AIR CEYLON TRIDENT WAS FORCED TO RETURN TO BOMBAY A  
SHORT TIME AFTER TAKE-OFF FOR COLOMBO. REPORTEDLY, THERE WAS AN  
EXPLOSION IN THE CRAFT'S AIR CONDITIONING AND PRESSURIZING UNIT.  
NOW REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE LAST OF THE 82 PASSENGERS ON THE  
FLIGHT, AND THUS STRANDED IN BOMBAY, WERE DUE IN COLOMBO AUGUST 2.  
THERE HAS BEEN NO ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING WHEN SERVICE MAY RESUME.  
WRIGGINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, AIRLINES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**SAS ID:** 1565738  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
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